

(c) the reasons for poor performance of the Super Bazar; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the affairs of the Super Bazar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The details of loan and subsidy provided to Super Bazar, Delhi during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, financial assistance received during 1993-94 has been fully utilised by them. Out of release of Rs. 12 lakhs made during 1994-95, only an amount of Rs. 8.67 lakhs have been utilised by them while the assistance released during 1995-96 is yet to be utilised by the Super Bazar, Delhi.

(c) and (d) The Super Bazar, Delhi is an autonomous co-operative society having its own Board of Directors to manage its affairs. The sales of the Super Bazar, Delhi has been steadily going up during the last five years and it is in profit.

#### Statement

Purpose	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	Loan	Subsidy	Total
<b>1993-94</b>			
Renovation of 26 branches	2.00	3.20	5.20
Installation of two Generator sets	4.50	0.80	5.30
Purchase of Delivery Van	1.50	—	1.50
	8.00	4.00	12.00
<b>1994-95</b>			
For computerisation of Accounts/other areas	4.00	2.50	6.5
Renovation/modification	4.00	1.50	5.50
	8.00	4.00	12.00
<b>1995-96</b>			
For opening of 10 branches	2.50	2.00	4.50
Renovation/modification of 10 branches	4.00	1.00	5.00
Computerisation/installation of cash Registrex Machines	9.50	5.00	14.50
	16.00	8.00	24.00

#### Demand and Supply of Essential Commodities

619. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the gap between demand and supply of essential commodities like edible oil, wheat, rice and sugar in the country; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to fill up this gap ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) There is no gap between demand and supply of commodities like rice and sugar in the country. There was a decline in wheat production during 1996-97 to the tune of about 3 million tonnes. The gap between demand and supply of edible oils for 1996-97 is estimated around 9 lakh tonnes.

(b) In order to meet the decline in the production of wheat, action has been initiated to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat. To meet the requirements of edible oil, imports are allowed under Open General Licence and through State Trading Corporation for distribution through the Public Distribution System.

[Translation]

#### Investment in Fertilizer Industry

620. SHRI SOHANBEER : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any long term policy in order to make the Fertilizer Industry profitable and favourable for investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Industrialists are not interested in making investment in the fertilizer industry because of the wrong policy of the Government; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to the change their policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) A High Powered Fertilizer Pricing Policy Review Committee have been constituted on 28.1.97 to review the existing system of subsidization of urea and suggest a rational, broad based, scientific and transparent methodology. The Committee is required to submit its report within 6 months. The terms of reference of the Committee include review of the adequacy or otherwise of incentives to the fertilizer industry and issues relating to reasonableness of